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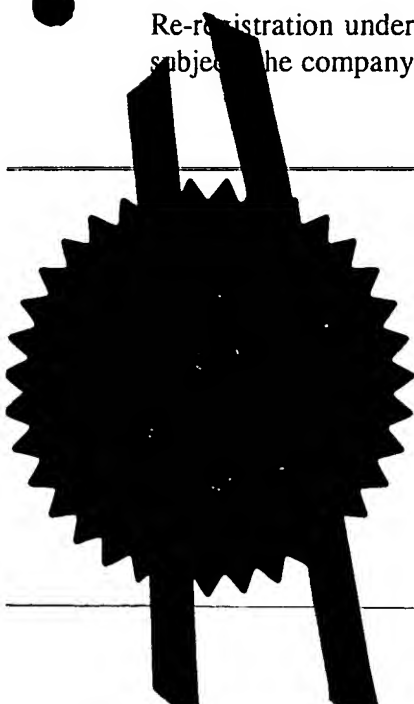
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Request for Grant of Patent

The Patent Office
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1RH

1. Your reference P79818

2. Patent Application number
(the Patent Office will fill in this part)

9919344.3

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or
of each Applicant (underline all surnames)

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Patent Office ADP Number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give
the country/state of its incorporation

7722176001

4. Title of the Invention Carrier Mount for Audio Apparatus

5. Name of your Agent (if you have one)

URQUHART-DYKES & LORD

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which all correspondence should be sent
(including the postcode)

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United Kingdom

Patents ADP Number (if you know it)

1644005

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Country

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URQUHART-DYKES & LORD

16 August 1999

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Mr G.M. Davies

01792 474327

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Carrier Mount For Audio Apparatus

5 The present invention relates to a carrier mount for audio apparatus and particularly to a carrier mount for personal audio apparatus to be used when exercising on exercise apparatus.

10 Personal disc and tape players are known which are provided with means of a attachment to the person of a user. Such arrangements are often used during exercise. The players are typically clipped to a users belt or waistband.

An improved arrangement has now been devised.

15 According to a first aspect, the invention provides a carrier mount for an audio player, which carrier mount comprises:

20 i) a pouch shaped and dimensioned to hold the audio player, and having a opening through which the audio player may be introduced into the interior of the pouch; and,

25 ii) securing means for releasably securing the pouch to a frame member comprising exercise apparatus, the securing means including a collar arranged to secure around the frame member.

30 The invention enables the audio player to be securely attached to the frame of an exercise machine (such as a jogging machine or a cycle frame) rather than attached to

the person of the user. This enables the controls of the player to be accessed more conveniently during exercise and track jumping (particularly for disc players) during vigorous exercise to be reduced or prevented. The carrier
5 mount also exhibits further advantageous features as described herein.

The pouch is preferably flexible, and/or of water resistant or waterproof material. Desirably the pouch is padded or
10 quilted to minimise the risk of impact or shock damage to the audio apparatus.

Closure means is preferably provided for substantially closing the mouth of the pouch when the audio player is
15 received in the interior of the pouch. The closure means may comprise zipper arrangement or, alternatively any other means of holding the mouth of the pouch in a closed condition.

20 The pouch is preferably provided with a further pocket either internally or, more preferably externally of the pouch. The pocket is beneficially sealable, typically by means of a zipper arrangement or the like.

25 Means is preferably provided for permitting an electrical connection lead (for headphones, earplugs or the like) to extend into the interior of the pouch when the mouth is substantially closed. In one embodiment this may be
30 achieved by the closure means for closing the mouth being configured to define a relatively small aperture or gap permitting the connection lead to extend therethrough. In

an alternative embodiment an aperture preformed in the pouch may perform this function.

5 The collar portion of the securing means is preferably arranged to be positioned adjacent a wall of the pouch. Means is preferably provided for ensuring a tight fit of the collar about the tubular frame element of the exercise apparatus. The collar is preferably therefore tightenable about the tubular frame element, and also preferably
10 subsequently loosenable to permit removal of the securing means from the tubular frame.

In one embodiment, the securing means may comprise a rigid or spring tightenable collar bracket (which may be a split
15 collar), desirably having means for selectively altering the effective collar diameter to permit tightening and/or loosening.

In an alternative embodiment, the securing means may
20 comprise a flexible element (such as a length of webbing or the like) arranged to pass over the tubular frame element. Typically in such an embodiment the flexible element length will be connected proximate a first end to the pouch and
releasably connected proximate a second end to the pouch.
25 The releasable connection will beneficially be by means of a quick release fastening arrangement, such as a popper, stud or VELCRO type connection.

The pouch is preferably configured to have opposed side
30 panels defining major faces and a relatively shallow depth. The mouth is preferably provided along the uppermost edge

of the pouch. The uppermost edge of the pouch is preferably substantially arcuate.

According to a further aspect, the invention provides, in combination:

i) exercise apparatus; and,

ii) a carrier mount for an audio player, which carrier mount comprises:

a) a pouch shaped and dimensioned to hold the audio player, and having a opening through which the audio player may be introduced into the interior of the pouch; and,

b) securing means for releasably securing the pouch to a frame member comprising exercise apparatus, the securing means including a collar arranged to secure around the frame member.

The invention will now be further described in a specific embodiment, by way of example only, and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a schematic side view of a carrier mount according to the invention; and,

Figure 2 is a schematic end elevation of the carrier mount of figure 1.

Referring to the drawings there is shown a carrier mount 1 for a personal CD player (not shown). The carrier mount 1 comprises a relatively compliant pouch 2 having opposed major panels 3,4 of padded material having respective plastics (waterproof) outer skins. The uppermost edge of the pouch 2 is arcuate and provided with an elongate mouth 10 (permitting access to the interior of the pouch 2. The mouth 10 is provided with a zip fastener closure arrangement 5. (As an alternative a VELCRO type closure could be provided).

Rear panel 4 of the pouch 2 is has secured (typically by stitching) a securing bracket 6 including a collar 7 expandable and contractible by means of a screw actuator 8. A zipper closure pocket 9 is provided on front panel 3 of the pouch.

In use a personal CD player is received in the interior of the pouch 2 and the zipper 5 closed to close the mouth 10 of the pouch. A small gap is left unclosed by the zipper 5 permitting the earpiece electrical connection lead to pass into the pouch and connect to the CD player. The bracket 6 is opened by releasing screw actuator 9, thereby permitting the split collar 7 to be located around a tubular frame member of a selected exercise apparatus. The collar is then contracted by manual manipulation of actuator 7 to contract and clamp securely on the tubular frame element of the exercise apparatus. Other collar arrangements are envisaged (such as a flexible web material length passing against the frame member), however the secure clamping of the expandable/contractible collar is

preferred.

5 The carrier mount of the invention enables a user to
securely mount audio apparatus to exercise apparatus,
whilst enabling unfettered use as normal. The waterproof
(or at least water resistant) skin of the pouch is
particularly useful for gym situations in which
perspiration is particularly prevalent. The padded or
quilted nature of the pouch also guards against shock or
10 impact damage to the audio apparatus.

CLYDE HUGHES MUSIC POUCH - 23/4/1999

